MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Held in Washington, D. C., October 5, 1945.

The first meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts during the fiscal year 1946 was held in its office in the Interior Department Building on Friday, October 5, 1945. The following members were present:

Mr. Clarke, Chairman,
Mr. Finley,
Mr. Aldrich,
Mr. Reinhard,
Mr. Sterne,
also H. P. Caemmerer, Secretary

and Administrative Officer.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

Mr. Clarke and Mr. Finley welcomed Mr. Aldrich, Mr. Reinhard, and Mr. Sterne, who were recently appointed by the President as members of the Commission of Fine Arts.

1. MINUTE ON THE DEATH OF DR. CRET: The following Resolution was unanimously adopted by the Commission of Fine Arts in tribute to Dr. Cret:

> In the death of Paul Philippe Cret in Philadelphia on September 8, 1945, The Commission of Fine Arts lost a member whose works are notable among the monuments and buildings erected in this country. He was a great gentleman, a distinguished artist, a devoted scholar, a beloved teacher, and a respected critic.
>
> Born in Lyons, France, on October 23, 1876, he was educated in the schools of his native city and at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris. He came to the United States as a young man and served as Professor of Design, School of Fine Arts, University of Pennsylvania, from 1903 to 1937. He early achieved fame when, with Albert Kelsey, he won the competition for the design of the Pan-American Building and its Gardens, to be erected in the National Capital. He thereafter continued the active practice of architecture which was ever to be distinguished for its brilliance.
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> Among the important designs which stand as monuments to his genius are the Folger Shakespeare Library, the Federal Reserve Board Building, the Central Heating Plant and the Calvert Street Bridge, all in Washington; the Valley Forge Memorial Arch, the Federal Reserve Building, the Rodin Museum, and the Delaware River Bridge, all in Philadelphia; the Peace Monument at Gettysburg, and buildings for the University of Texas, for the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, and for the

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United States Military Academy at West Point.

In Europe, following military service with the French Army and subsequently with the First Division of the U. S. Army, Paul Cret was selected to design the World War I Memorials at Varennes and at Fismes. For the American Battle Monuments Commission, he designed monuments at Chateau Thierry, Bony, Waereghem, and Gibraltar. Into these "he put his love for the country of his birth as well as that for the country of his adoption."

Two editorials, one published in the Washington Evening Star on September 11, 1945, and the other in the New York Herald-Tribune on September 13, 1945, (the latter written by his friend, the distinguished architect William Adams Delano, a former member of The Commission of Fine Arts) attest the esteem in which he was held among both laymen and artists and their sense of loss in his death. The Evening Star editorial reads in part,

"No adequate conception of Dr. Cret's career, however, can be obtained from mere reading of a list of the projects to which he contributed his genius. In order to appreciate him fully, it is necessary to consider the pure and lovely grace of the buildings he brought into existence. He was possessed of powers of imagination of the highest order, but he also was gifted with the force of character required for translating dreams into realities. Whatever he touched took on some element of the strength that was in him. Thus he left his marken the whole world both directly and, as in the Commission of Fine Arts for example, through his incluence upon others. No man could ask a grander privilege."

At the time of his death he had begun a second term of four years as a member of The Commission of Fine Arts, to which he was appointed on April 25, 1940. In his passing, his colleagues on the Commission recognize the loss of a noble and courageous character, a true friend, and a great artist, who rendered distinguished and lasting service to his country and to his fellowmen.

The Commission directed the Secretary to send acopy of these Resolutions to Madam Cret (Exhibit A)

2. SHIPSTEAD*LUCE ACT, CONGRESSIONAL APARTMENT-HOTEL; near the Capitol: Chairman Clarke called attention to the provisions of the Shipstead-Luce Act, under which the Commission of Fine Arts is given a limited control over the erection of private buildings in the District of Columbia. The Act has been in operation for 15 years and no case has been presented in Court against the Act. It thus seems firmly established. During the past 15 years the

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Inspector of Buildings of the District of Columbia has made 1061 formal submissions to the Commission of Fine Arts under the Act.

Mr. Clarke also called attention to the Regulations which the Commission adopted for administering the Act. These Regulations include provisions pertaining to advertising signs. The Commission does not allow signs more than 25 square feet in area; no red neon and flashes. Thus the appearance of leading streets in the central area of the city has been protected. Also the Act has resulted in improved designs and in the use of better material for buildings by contractors.

Congressional Apartment-Hotel: The Inspector of Buildings submitted on August 30, 1945 a design (Application No. 1056) for a Congressional Apartment-Hotel at 300 New Jersey Avenue, S. E., to be immediately south of the Old House Office Building. The design was sent by the Secretary to Dr. Cret soon after its receipt, and since Dr. Cret had become ill, by his office to Mr. Lamb, who in turn referred it to Mr. Reinhard. Mr. Clarke also inspected the design, which was considered unsatisfactory, and a report disapproving the design, was sent to the Inspector of Buildings on September 25, 1945, accordingly.

The design was again reviewed by the Commission at the meeting and the action taken with reference to disapproving the design was ratified unanimously by the Commission.

The Secretary called attentionto questions raised by the Architect of the Capitol with reference to the height of the building. He said Members of Congress that have rooms on the south side of the old House Office Building would regret a high building that would obstruct their view and would certainly deplore a building badly designed. Mr. Reinhard called attention to the restlessness in the design of the building. The Commission regarded this a modernistic building that is out of place adjacent to a well designed classical

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building in marble, such as the old House Office Building, and advised that the building is redesigned. The plans were referred to Mr. Reinhard for a report in detail on changes that should be made in the building. which he submitted as followis:

1. The general design, Layout and detail plus the use of materials are not in keeping with the location and policty of this Commission.

2. We propose the redesign, that is an overall redesign not only in looks, but the general planning and location of what should front on New Jersey Avenue adjacent to the House of Representatives Office Building, so that the proposed building would have an appearance to warrant the location it is planned for.

3. The architect of this project should re-study and feel a responsibility in this new study to be submitted with reference to the location, the materials to be used, and more important the simplicity of design and fenestration so as to avoid all the restless ness of the design as submitted.

We shall be more than pleased to cooperate and be helpful if the above-mentioned criticisms be followed.

The Commission concurred in Mr. Reinhard's report and a copy therefor was sent to the Board of Commissicners of the District of Columbia(Exhibit B)

3.STATUE OF GEORGE WASHINGTON: The Chairman reported that recently we received a photograph of a model for a marble statue of George Washington by Lee Lawrie, sculptor, to be placed in the Washingtion Cathedral.

The Commission inspected the photograph and were well pleased with it. The action taken by the Chairman on July 31, 1945, approving the model in behalf of the Commission, was ratified (Exhibit C). Mr. Sterne considered the head fine but thought the legs to be a little thin.

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The motion taken by the Chairman on July 21, 1966, approving the model in behalf of the Commission, was rescinded (Exhibit C). Mr. Bourne considered that the building is redesigned. The plans were referred to Mr. Reinhard for a report in detail on changes that should be made in the building, which be submitted as follows:

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4. BOOK ON THE LIFE OF PIERRE CHARLES L'ENFANT: SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION IN 1950: Chairman Clarke informed the Commission that Mr. Caemmerer wants to undertake a task which has not been done, namely to write a book on the life of Pierre Charles L'Enfant. This book would be made availabe for the Sesquicentennial Celebration, in 1950, to mark the establishment of the Seat of Government in the District of Columbia in 1800.

The Commission felt that a book on the life of L'Enfant would be highly desirable and heartily endorsed the project.

Mr. Caemmerer gave a brief outline of chapter headings, of which there would probably be eight, or ten,-among them a chapter concerning his ancestry, his boyhood and training, his career as an officer in the French Army, his experience as an officer in the American Revolution, his services to the Society of the Cincinnati, as a practicing engineer and architect in New York City where he designed Federal Hall, his work in making the Plan of Washington in 1791, and an account of his life thereafter; a chapter on the development of the L'Enfant Plan; and its influence on other cities. L'Enfant was born in Paris in 1754 and came to America in 1777. He died near Washington at the age of 71. It is to be a definitive work, requiring three years to prepare the material, including research in France , and two years to print the book.

5. STATUE OF NATHAN HALE: The Commission were in conference with Senator Brien McMahon, of Connecticut, who desired advice with reference to a location for a statue of Nathan Hale that has been bequeathed to theUnited States by the late George Dudley Seymour, and for which the Senator has introduced legislation, S. J. Res. 84 (Exhibit D).

Chairman Clarke informed Senator McMahon that the Commission like the statue (which is by Bela Pratt) and that yesterday afternoon he and Mr. Finley inspected several locations; since the statue is small (About 6½ feet) and is in bronze it needs an intimate setting with background similar to the one at

Yale University. A site on Constitution Avenue half way between the center of the south side of the Department of Justice Building, between Ninth and Tenth Streets, was considered most suitable. There it would be silhouetted against a stone (limestone) wall and should look well.

Senator McMahon said he was familiar with the site, having served in the Department of Justice for six years and felt he could persuade the Attorney General to agreeto the site.

It was decided to send a report to Senator McMahon regarding the location and that he then should take up the matter with the Attorney General. (Exhibit d-1)

Later in the day the matter was brought to the attention of the officials of the Public Buildings administration and they interposed no objection to the location of the statue at the site selected on grounds of the Department of Justice Building.

About 10:45 a.m. Representative James P. Geelan, of Connecticutmcalled on the Commission concerning the statue. He suggested placing the statue in Statuary Hall. It was pointed out that the law allows only two statues from a State in Statuary Hall and that Connecticut is represented by John Trumbull and Roger Sherman.

The Commission felt it would be much better to place the statue outside of a building. Representatives Geelan was informed of the location selected by the Commission and he agreed to confer with Senator McMahon concerning the matter; thereupon he proposes to introfuce similar legislation to S. J. Res. 84 in the House of Representatives.

The Secretary reported that he saw the statue at the birthplace of Nathan Hale at South Coventry, Connecticut, this past summer and noted that its pedestal is in concrete. This matter was brought to the attention of the Executor of the Estate by the Commission, who advised that $3500.00 would be needed for a granite pedestal (Exhibit D-2)

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6. COMMITTEE ON WHITE HOUSE FURNISHINGS: Chairman Clarke reported that recently Mrs. Harry H. Benkard died. She was a well-known interior decorator in New York City, and a member of the Committee on White House Furnishings. Just who is to take her place has not been decided. At the present time the Committee consists of Mrs. Truman (Ex Officio), Mrs. Harold I. Pratt, Chairman, Mr. William Adams Delano, Mr. Finley, Mr. Clarke, and Mr. Luke Vincent Lockwood.

The Committee was created during the administration of President Coolidge by Act of Congress to advise on matters pertaining to the furnishings in the State Rooms of the White House, including proposed gifts and purchases. The Committee cooperates with the Commission of Fine Arts and has been very helpful. Recently Mr. Finley furnished President Truman with some portraits by loan from the National Gallery of Art for the White House and the Executive Office.

7. NATIONAL MILITARY CEMETERIES: The Chairman called attention to pending legislation (S. 524, approved by the Senate on June 21, 1945, (Exhibit E). The War Department proposes at least one additional military cemetery in each of the States, as provided for in theBill. It is proposed to bring the bodies of all those who died in World War II back to the United States, from the 55 fighting fronts in allparts of the world; these number 250,000. Then all members of the armed forces, of which there were fully 13,000,000 when hostilities ended (V. E. Day May 13, 1945, when fighting ended in Europe; and V. J. Day September 2, 1945, when fighting ended in Japan.)

The Chairman stated that the Commission of Fine Arts is to advise concerning the designs of these cemeteries. After World War I this Commission helped in designing the eight permanent United States Military Cemeteries in Europe for the 30,000 of our soldiers whose bodies were kept there. Outstanding

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architects such as Mr. Platt, Mr. Swartwout, Mr. Pope, Mr. Ellett, and others designed chapels and memorials. Dr. Cret also designed several and was the consulting architect of the American Battle Monuments Commission for the entire project. For these new military cemeteries a similar service is to be rendered by the Commission of Fine Arts. In all about 70 new cemeteries are contemplated.

The Secretary stated that the legislation is pending in the Committee on Military affairs in the House of Representatives and that he has heard that funderak directors of small towns are opposing theBill, since they would prefer to have the bodies of the soldiers brought to their home towns.

8. ENLARGING THE ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY: Chairman Clarke stated that for the City of Washington it is proposed to enlarge the Arlington National Cemetery, by acquiring additional land adjacent to the cemetery. This is to include a 25 acre tract on the north side of the cemetery, for which an apartment house is contemplated by private builders. Such an apartment would be extremely undersirable at this location, since it would be ablot in the landscape near the Lincoln Memorial and on the axis of the Mall. A letter on the subject was sent to the Secretary of War (Exhibit F) and a sympathetic reply was received from the then Secretary of War Patterson, which the Chairman read (Exhibit F-1).

Mr. Reinhard said he recalled that some time ago he was consulted with reference to a carolin tower for Washington and that location was mentioned.

Later in the day Major General Grant, Chairman of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, was in conference with the Commission and he said with reference to this project that his Commission is awaiting the adoption of S. 524 by the House of Representatives before taking further action in the matter.

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Later in the day Major General Grant, Chairman of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, was in conference with the Commission and he said with reference to this project that his Commission is awaiting the adoption of S. 554 by the House of Representatives before taking further action in the matter.

9. NEW FOURTEENTH STREET BRIDGE: Chairman Clarke stated that the Commission of Fine Arts has taken action on a project submitted by the Public Roads Administration, Federal Works Agency, and the Highway Department of the District of Columbia, to provide for two four-lane bridges (one for outgoing and one for incoming traffic) at Fourteenth Street. The matter was considered very carefully several years ago and it was then decided that eight lanes of traffic are necessary; it will make it possible to remove some of the traffic from the Arlington Memorial Bridge, so as to retain its memorial feature. The National Capital Park and Planning Commission wants only one bridge with six lanes of traffic, and after some argument stated that an additional bridge could be provided to cross the Potomac at Alexandria. However, the Public Roads Administration has pointed out such a bridge would not help traffic conditions at Fourteenth Street.

Hearings on a Bill introduced by Congressman Jennings Randolph on January 3, 1945, H. R. 541 (Exhibit G) have been held before a Subcommittee of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce of the House of Representatives, Hon. Virgil Chapman, Chairman. Mr. Clarke said he has appeared before that Committee in behalf of the project for the Commission of Fine Arts, and that witnesses have been overwhelmingly for the two four-lane bridges. In addition to the District Commissioners and the Public Roads Administration, the American Automobile Association and the Washington Board of Trade, particularly, have gone on record for the two-four lane bridges.

A location plan and design of the bridge were inspected by the Commission. Mr. Clarke said the District Commissioners held a competition, which was won by Howard, Needles, Tammen and Bergendoff, Engineers, and Henry R. Shepley, Consulting Architect. Mr. Shepley designed a four-lane bridge with granite piers and simple deck girder, both bridges will be alike. The Commission

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took note of the location, as well as Mr. Shepley's design for the bridge, with which they were well pleased. The Commission felt that the two bridges as proposed would be an ornament to the City of Washington, as well as provide a solution to a very bad traffic situation at Fourteenth Street.

10. WAR MEMORIALS TO COMMEMORATE WORLD WAR II: The Chairman presented a letter from Dr. Horace F. McFarland, Chairman of the Pennsylvania State Art Commission, requesting advice and assistance with regard to securing suitable designs for War Memorials to commemorate World War II.

The Commission discussed the subject. The Secretary called attention to a copy of a pamphlet issued by the Commission of Fine Arts soon after World War I, suggesting types of War Memorials, and also naming professional advisers residing in the States that were selected at the time by the American Institute of Architects, whom clients could consult with regard to them.

The Commission felt that some statement by the Commission of Fine Arts on the subject of War Memorials for World War II would be helpful, but the Commission did not favor the idea of furnishing a list of professional advisers, since such a list might lend to a controversy, without being helpful.

Mr. Sterne suggested that for World War II Memorial particular emphasis be placed on sculptured panels to portray in relief ships, tanks, and other like equipment that was new in this War. The Commission thought this to be a very good suggestion.

Mr. Finley was designated to draft a statement for the Commission of Fine Arts on this subject. He asked that the other members of the Commission contribute their ideas in a memorandum addressed to him.

11. PAN AMERICAN ANNEX: Dr. L. S. Rowe, Director General of the Pan American Union, accompanied by his chief Clerk, Mr. Griffith, conferred with the Commission on the subject of the proposed Pan American Annex.

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Mr. Finley was designated to draft a statement for the Commission of Fine Arts on this subject. He asked that the other members of the Commission contribute their ideas in a memorandum addressed to him.

11. PAN AMERICAN UNION: Dr. L. S. Rowe, Director General of the Pan American Union, accompanied by his chief Clerk, Mr. Griffith, conferred with the Commission on the subject of the proposed Pan American Annex.

Dr. Rowe said that the Pan American Union is most urgently in need of additional office space and that no building is available that could be rented; that the $650,000 given by the Carnegie Foundation for the proposed building is still available plus accumulated interest over a period of years. Dr. Rowe said further that Plan I, providing for the Annex on the line of 18th Street seems impracticable since the Commissioners of the District of Columbia will not agree to its because it requires closing a portion of Virginia Avenue and a site some blocks away from the headquarters building would be undesirable; therefore the only solution seems to be to take the triangle made available by Congress under the Act of December 23, 1929, at 19th Street and Constitution Avenue. Fully $40,000 was spent on a tunnel under 18th Street, to connect the main building with the proposed Annex.

Mr. Ickes was opposed to erecting the Annex on this triangle, since he said itwould obstruct the view of the Interior Department from Constitution Avenue, but whether he still objected to it Dr. Rowe could not say. It was shown from photographs of perspectives made by Dr. Cret that there would little interference with the view of the Interior Department Building to have the Pan American Annex located on the Triangle mentioned.

The Commission considered the matter and decided that in view of all the conditions presented, there would be no objection on the part of the Commission of Fine Arts to the erection of the Pan American Annex on this triangle. Mr. Clarke said as things look now with that large open space it is like a tooth out along Constitution Avenue.

Dr. Rowe said "I don't see the slightest reason from any point of view baring the aesthetic why we should not go ahead and my personal view even from an artistic view point would be that the building would be an ornament to the City of Washington and would not in any way obstruct the view of the Interior

Dr. Rowe said that the Pan American Union is more urgently in need of additional office space and that no building is available that could be rented; that the $850,000 given by the Carnegie Foundation for the proposed building is still available plus accumulated interest over a period of years. Dr. Rowe said further that Plan I, providing for the Annex on the line of 18th Street seems impracticable since the Commissioners of the District of Columbia will not agree to it because it requires closing a portion of Virginia Avenue and a site some 250ft away from the headquarters building would be unsatisfactory; therefore the only solution seems to be to take the triangle made available by Congress under the Act of December 23, 1929, at 18th Street and Constitution Avenue. Fully $40,000 was spent on a tunnel under 18th Street to connect the main building with the proposed Annex.

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Department Building." It was shown from photographs of perspectives made by Dr. Cret that the view of the Interior Department Building would not be obstructed by having the Pan American Annex built on the triangle mentioned.

The question then resolved itself into getting the approval of the President to this scheme. For this purpose Dr. Rowe said he desired to confer with Secretary of State Byrnes as soon as his time permitted.

It was noted that the plans for the building were drawn in 1931. The Chairman asked Mr. Reinhard whether he would erect a building in 1945 on the basis of plans made in 1931 and he replied that he would not without thoroughly going over the plans. Thereupon it was decided simply to approve the location of the building on the triangle above mentioned. Major General Grant was informed of this matter later in the day and he concurred in it.

The question of design is to be taken up with Mr. John F. Harbeson, of the firm of Harbeson, Hough, Livingston and Larson, Architects, 1518 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, who are the successors to Dr. Cret.

A report was sent to Dr. Rowe (Exhibit H (See also H-1)

12. CAFETERIA, WASHINGTON NATIONAL AIRPORT: The Public Buildings Administration submitted plans for a Cafeteria at the Washington National Airport. Mr. Stanley Underwood, Supervising Architect, accompanied by Mr. A. S. Thorn, Assistant, conferred with the Commission concerning the design.

Mr. Underwood said that the Civil Aeronautics Authority secured on appropriation from Congress for a one-story building to be built on the north side of the main airport building, at the foot of the hill back of a hangar, where it will not be seen from the Mount Vernon Highway.

Mr. Aldrich and Mr. Reinhard inspected the design and thought it to be of a mediocre character. Mr. Underwood said it is proposed to add another story very soon, but just how a two story building would look could not be

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determined since no plans had been made for it.

In the circumstance the Commission decided simply to interpose no objection to the erection of the one-story building (Exhibit I).

13. PUBLIC BUILDINGS BILL, H. R, 4276, The Secretary furnished each member of the Commission with a copy of H. R. 4276, "To provide for the construction of public buildings, and for other purposes." introduced in the House of Representatives by Congressman Lanham on October 3, 1945 (Exhibit J).

The Secretary stated that theBill, which embodies the recommendations sent to Congress by President Truman, provides for an expenditure of $190,000,000 for public buildings in the National Capital as a "Post War Project." including authorization to acquire all land adjacent to East Capitol Street for a distance of two miles eat of the Capitol, according to plan. It virtually endorses all the great building projects that have been proposed for the development of the City of Washington after World War II, as indicated in the Exhibition on the Plan of Washington whixh is now being held at the Corcoran Gallery of Art. In the Northwest Rectangle the War Department Building is to be completed and a new Navy Department Building is to be built west of Twenty-third Street to the river.

The Commission considered the Bill and expressed great interest in it. The importance of having private architectural firms make designs for the monumental buildings was emphasized. Mr. Sterne called attention to the importance of having provision made for decorations by sculpture and painting. The following amendment was adopted for insertion in the Bill:

> "In the case of buildings to cost $500,000 or more, the Commissioner of Public Buildings shall employ the services of such architects, engineers, sculptors, mural painters and other personnel as shall be determined to be necessary without reference to Civil Service requirements, at rates of compensation agreed upon between such individuals or firms.

Later in the day Major General Grant discussed the Bill with the

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Later in the day Major General Grant discussed the Bill with the

Commission and called attention in particular to Section 315, which states,---

> "All acts and parts of Acts inconsistent or in conflict with the foregoing provisions are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency or conflict."

It was realized that if that section were unacted it would deprive the Commission of Fine Arts and the National Park and Planning Commission of their functions pertaining to the development of the National Capital. Therefore, the Commission recommended the following amendment to Section 315 so as to read:

> "All Acts and parts of Acts inconsistent or in conflict with the foregoing provisions, except insofar as the requirement of submitting for approval plans for public buildings in the City of Washington to the Commission of Fine Arts and to the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency or conflict."

In the past the Commission of Fine Arts have had splendid cooperation from the Commissioner of Public Buildings, but the Commission felt it would be best to have the amendments above stated inserted in the Bill.

Accordingly, a report was sent to Congressmen Lanham, Chairman of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds immediately (Exhibit J-1, A copy of the letter was sent to Senator Andrews (Exhibit J-2), Chairman of the Senate Committee on Public Buildingsand Grounds.

14. UNITED STATES HISTORY IN MINIATURE: Major General Grant brought to the attention of the Commission a scheme to construct a museum along the Mount Vernon Highway not far from Mount Vernon to House models of historical planes such as models of the birthplaces of Presidents of the United States and mosels of other structures of historic interest. Robert McKellar is the Executive Secretary.

The Commission inspected the design shown in the perspective and thought itto be very bad. In response to a request from General Grant, the Commission decided to help in the matter of design if the project materializes.

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15. DUPONT CIRCLE UNDERPASS: Major General Grant discussed with the Commission the design for the proposed Dupont Circle Underpass, to cost $2,000,000, and which is to be built on the line of Connecticut Avenue among the first post war projects. He stated that the National Capital Park and Planning Commission had aimed to have the Circle protected by having the entrance stations or Kiosks placed at the north and south ends of the Circle, along Connecticut Avenue, instead of on the Circle. There will be 18,000 persons a day who will use the underpass.

The Chairman stated that he had been informed by Mr. Caemmerer that Capt. Whitehurst does not propose to submit the design to the Commission of Fine Arts since he regarded it for the most part a duplication of the Thomas Circle Underpass. However, the Commission felt there would be too many problems in connection with this project to let the Commissioners of the District of Columbia go ahead with it, since the Highway Department did such a bad job with the Underpass at Virginia Avenue and 23d Street. Furthermore, originally the Dupont Circle Underpass was estimated at about $500,000 instead of $2,000,000 as now contemplated.

The Secretary was requested to secure from the Highway Department of the District of Columbia a set of the plans, which he did and sent them to the Chairman. (Exhibit K)

17, BRIDGE FOR THE WASHINGTON-BALTIMORE PARWAY. Mr. Harry T. Thompson Assistant Superintendent, National Capital Parks, submitted a revised design for a bridge on the Washington-Baltimore Parway, at the Riverdale Overpass.

Mr. Clarke inspected the design and on his recommendation the Commission approved it. (Exhibit L).

18. PLAN FOR EAST POTOMAC PARK: Mr. Thompson submitted a design for changes in East Potomac Park. He pointed out that some radical improvements

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17. PLAN FOR EAST POTOMAC PARK: Mr. Thompson submitted a design for changes in East Potomac Park. He pointed out that some radical improvements

should be made soon, since at high water the south end of the park is under water. The park is all reclaimed land, comprising about 300 acres, and is sinking at the rate of one inch a year. He said enough earth fill is desired to make the park safe from floods for several hundred years. Thereupon the plan for the park should be carried out.

The Commission noted a Tourist Camp as the north end of the park, and said it ought to be removed from the City limits. Mr. Thompson replied that it has been established there by law and some Members of Congress have for years been opposed to removal of the Tourist Camp, since they like to tell their constituents that an inexpensive place to park and for lodging can be provided for them right in the City.

The design was referred to the Chairman for study.

19. FREER GALLERY OF ART: The Commission visited the Freer Gallery of Art in the afternoon and inspected several objects of art proposed for purchase. They were of real interest and the Commission approved them. (Exhibit M)

20. IMPROVEMENTS AT THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CHAMBERS. In accordance with arrangements made, the Commission called at the office of Mr. Lynn to inspect drawings submitted by Mr. Francis P. Sullivan, Associate Architect for changes in the Senate and House of Representatives chambers. These changes involve removing the existingglass skylights and old cast iron and temporary steel trusses, changing the lighting system, improving the acousits, and improving the appearance of the Chambers.

Thereupon the Commission met with the Joint Congressional Committee, Senator Charles O. Andrews, Chairman, at the Senate Office Building. In addition to the Commission of Fine Arts there were present Senator Andrews, Senator Green of Rhode Island, and Representatives Lanham, Bloom and McGregor. Also Mr. David Lynn, Architect of the Capitol was present.

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death of Dr. Cret on September 8, 1945, was noted with deep regret since arrangements had been made to appoint him as the consulting architect. Senator Andrews said, "We are no back to where we started."

Mr. Lynn stated that a contract had been made with Mr. Sullivan as the associate architect to preparedesigns on a 6% basis of cost of the project. Senator Andrews pointed out that the Senators would not attempt to say what should be done with the House of Representatives. Congressman Bloom said he wanted to see a blueprints of structural changes to be made in the House; the scheme of decorations could be agreedto later.

Mr. Sullivan presented sketches as showing a scheme of decoration for the Senate Chamber. They had a sombre appearance and the Commission felt they lacked interest and could be improved.

Senator Andrews stated to Chairman Clarke that the Joint Committee would desire a recommendation as to a consulting architect for the project.

After adjournment of the formal meeting, the member of the Commission of Fine Arts convened to consider the project, and unanimously recommended that Messrs. Harbeson, Hough, Livingston and Larson, Architects, successors to Dr. Cret, be commissioned as the firm of consulting architect for the project. Senator Andrews and Representatives Lanham, as well as Mr. Lynn were informed accordingly (Exhibit N, N-1 and N-2)(See also N-3)

21. RELOCATION OF THE MCMILLAN FOUNTAIN: The Commission again considered the question of location of the McMillan Fountain and later in the day visited the location proposed for it some eight hundred feet west of the District of Columbia World War Memorial Band Stand on the south side of the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Basin. TheCommission noted that at this location only one Magnolia tree would have to be removed. After inspection of the site the Commission reaffirmed unanimously the appropriateness of this location for the fountain. A

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21. RELOCATION OF THE KOSCIUSZKO MOUNTAIN: The Commission again considered the question of location of the Kosciusko Fountain and later in the day visited the location proposed for it some eight hundred feet west of the District of Columbia World War Memorial Band stand on the south side of the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Basin. The Commission noted that at this location only one magnolia tree would have to be removed. After inspection of the site the Commission reaffirmed unanimously the appropriateness of this location for the fountain. A

letter was sent to Acting Director, Demaray of theNational Park Service accordingly, with the suggestion that a landscape plan be prepared for the fountain at this site (Exhibit O)

22. EXHIBIT ON WASHINGTON AT THE CORCORAN GALLERY OF ART: Mr. Finley, Mr. Aldrich and Mr. Sterne visited the Exhibition about 6:15 p.m., and enjoyed seeing it. The Secretary explained details of the plans. Mr. O'Connor Curator of the Corcoran Gallery was present and stated that hundreds of people have been visiting the Exhibit every day since its opening on September 9th; it is to continue to October 21st (Exhibit P).

The Commission adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

The Commission adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Hart Clinton
Secretary

October 16, 1945.

Dear Madame Cret:

I have the honor to send to you a Resolution adopted by The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on October 5, 1945, held in the City of Washington.

Sincerely yours,

H. P. Caemmerer,
Secretary

Mme. Paul Philippe Cret,

516 Woodland Terrace,

Philadelphia, Pa.

Exhibit A

October 15, 1926.

Dear Madame Orth:

I have the honor to send to you a Resolution adopted by The Commandery of Fine Arts, at their meeting on October 5, 1926, held in the City of Washington.

Sincerely yours,

L. P. Gessmer,
Secretary

Mme. Paul Philippe Orth,

916 Woodland Terrace,

Philadelphia, Pa.

Exhibit A

RESOLUTION adopted at a meeting of THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS held in the City of Washington, October 5, 1945.

In the death of Paul Phillippe Cret in Philadelphia on September 8, 1945, the Commission of Fine Arts lost a member whose works are notable among the monuments and buildings erected in this country. He was a great gentleman, a distinguished artist, a devoted scholar, a beloved teacher, and a respected critic.

Born in Lyins, France on October 23, 1876, he was educated in the schools of his native city and at the Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris. He came to the United States as a young many and served as Professor of Design, School of Fine Arts, University of Pennsylvania from 1903 to 1937/ He early achieved fame when, with Albert Kelsey, he won the competition for the design of the Pan-American Building and its Gardens, to be erected in the National Capital. He thereafter continued the active practice of architecture which was ever to be distinguished for its brilliance.

Among the important designs which stand as monuments to his genius are the Folger Shakespeare Library, the Federal Reserve Board Building, the Central Heating Plant, and the Calvert Street Bridge, all in Washington; the Valley Forge Memorial Arch, the Federal Reserve Building, the Rodin Museum, and the Delaware River Bridge, all in Philadelphia; the Peace Monument at Gettysburg, and buildings for the University of Texas, for the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, and for the United States Military Academy at West Point.

In Europe, following military service with the French Army and subsequently with the 1st Division of the U. S. Army, Paul Cret was selected to design the World War I Memorials at Varennes and at Fismes. For the American Battle Monuments Commission, he designed monuments at Chateau Thierry, Bony, Waereghem, and Gibraltar. Into these "he put his love for the country of his birth as well as that for the country of his adoption."

Two editorials, one published in the Washington Evening Star on September 11, 1946, and the other in the New York Herald-Tribune on September 15, 1946, (the latter written by his friend, the distinguished architect William Adams Delano, a former member of the Commission of Fine Arts) attest the esteem in which he was held among both laymen and artists and their sense of loss in his death. The Evening Star editorial reads in part,

> "No adequate conception of Dr. Ovet's career, however, can be obtained from mere reading of a list of the projects to which he contributed his genius. In order to appreciate him fully, it is necessary to consider the pure and lovely grace of the buildings he brought into existence. He was possessed of powers of imagination of the highest order, but he also was gifted with the force of character required for translating dreams into realities. Whatever he touched took on some element of the strength that was in him. Thus he left his mark on the whole world both directly and, as in the Commission of Fine Arts, for example, through his influence upon others. No man could ask a greater privilege."

At the time of his death he had begun a second term of four years as a member of The Commission of Fine Arts, to which he was appointed on April 25, 1940. In his passing, his colleagues on the Commission recognize the loss of a noble and courageous character, a true friend, and a great artist, who rendered distinguished and lasting service to his country and to his fellowmen.

ington Star Paul P. Cret 9/11/45

Few men of his time have left so many monuments as Paul P. Cret. He was an artist of the very greatest distinction, and he will be remembered as long as the structures he created stand—and longer, too, as they take their respective places in recorded history. The Folger Shakespeare Library undoubtedly was his greatest achievement. It is, as the donors always considered it, "a pearl" among modern works of architecture.

But Dr. Cret had accomplished many notable triumphs before he came to East Capitol street. Born in Lyons, France, October 23, 1876, he was educated at the fine arts schools of his native city and of Paris and through those institutions received the discipline of the Classic tradition to which, despite more than a little pressure from the age in which he lived, he remained faithful all his life. From 1903 to 1937 he served as professor of design at the University of Pennsylvania. Meanwhile, he was associated with Albert Kelsey in the execution of the drawings for the Pan American Building on Seventeenth street here, with Zantzinger, Borie and Medary in the Indianapolis Public Library and the Detroit Institute of Arts, and with Smith and Bassette in the County Building at Hartford. His independent designs included the Federal Reserve Board Building, the Central Heating Plant and the Calvert Street Bridge in Washington, the Valley Forge Memorial Arch and the Delaware Bridge in Philadelphia, the Hall of Science at the Century of Progress Exposition in Chicago, new buildings for the University of Texas and for the Military Academy at West Point and the Naval Academy at Annapolis. The enterprises in which he probably found the keenest satisfaction were the Chateau Thierry, Bony, Waereghem and Gibraltar war memorials into which he put his love for the country of his birth as well as that for the country of his adoption.

No adequate conception of Dr. Cret's career, however, can be obtained from mere reading of a list of the projects to which he contributed his genius. In order to appreciate him fully, it is necessary to consider the pure and lovely grace of the buildings he brought into existence. He was possessed of powers of imagination of the highest order, but he also was gifted with the force of character required for translating dreams into realities. Whatever he touched took on some element of the strength that was in him. Thus he left his mark on the whole world both directly and, as in the Federal Commission of Fine Arts for example, through his influence upon others. No man could ask grander privilege.

22

NEW YORK
Herald Tribune

Thursday, September 13, 1945

Paul Philippe Cret

A great architect died in Paul Philippe Cret. Born in France, he came as a young man to this country to teach architecture at the University of Pennsylvania. By winning a competition for the Pan-American Union Building in Washington he naturally grew from a teacher into a practicing architect. From that start he went on to a brilliant career. Trained in the traditional school, he was no hidebound conservative. He grew with his times and charted for himself and many others a course which lies between two forests of contemporary architectural thought. Handicapped in the beginning by slight knowledge of our language, in which he later became a master, by increasing deafness and—in later years—by the loss of his voice, he never lost courage nor his power of persuasion. Endowed, like so many of his countrymen, with a clear, logical mind, a sense of humor and a ready wit, he carried conviction. He leaves a distinguished record—many important public buildings and monuments in this country and abroad—and, above all, a host of warm friends and admirers among his many clients and fellow architects.

COPY

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Washington

October 17, 1945.

Dear Sirs:

The design by Alvin L. Aubince for an Apartment-Hotel at New Jersey Avenue and C Street, S. E., submitted by the Inspector of Buildings on August 30, 1945 (Application No. 1056), was disapproved on September 28, 1945.

The general design, the layout, and the details, including the use of materials of construction, are not in keeping with the proposed location of this building and with the policy of this Commission.

We suggest a complete overall re-design to include the general plan and the design of the elevations in order that the proposed building may be appropriate and in keeping with the importance of its site opposite the House of Representatives Office Building.

The architect should feel a responsibility in this new study, particularly with reference to the proposed location, to the materials to be used, and to the simplicity of the general design including the fenestration, so as to avoid the restlessness and inadequacy of the design heretofore submitted.

The Commission will be glad to review preliminary sketches for a new design when the Architect is ready.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke
Chairman

The Board of Commissioners
of the District of Columbia,
Washington, D. C.

B

COPY

COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Washington

October 17, 1945.

Dear Sirs:

The design by Alvin L. Aubinoe for an Apartment-Hotel at New Jersey Avenue and C Street, S. W., submitted by the Inspector of Buildings on August 30, 1945 (Application No. 10253), was disapproved on September 28, 1945.

The general design, the layout, and the details, including the use of materials of construction, are not in keeping with the proposed location of this building and with the policy of this Commission.

We suggest a complete overall re-design to include the general plan and the design of the elevations in order that the proposed building may be appropriate and in keeping with the importance of its site opposite the House of Representatives Office Building.

The architect should feel a responsibility in this new study, particularly with reference to the proposed location, to the materials to be used, and to the simplicity of the general design including the fenestration, so as to avoid the restlessness and inadequacy of the design heretofore submitted.

The Commission will be glad to review preliminary sketches for a new design when the Architect is ready.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke
Chairman

The Board of Commissioners
of the District of Columbia,
Washington, D. C.

July 31, 1945.

My dear Mr. Lawrie:

Several members of the Commission of Fine Arts have seen the photograph of your model of the Statue of George Washington for the Washington Cathedral. They are well pleased with it. They consider it a dignifiedand personal interpretation of the subject and appropriate for its intended location. Therefore, in behalf of the Commission of Fine Arts, I have pleasure in approving the model.

Dr. Cret offers a possible suggestion that the diameter of the circular upper base be increased in width one or one-and-a-half inches.

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,

Chairman.

Mr. Lee Lawrie, Sculptor,
Locust Lane Farm,
Easton, Maryland.

Exhibit C

May 31, 1940.

My dear Mr. Lawrie:

Several members of the Commission of Fine Arts have seen the photograph of your model of the Statue of George Washington for the Washington Cathedral. They are well pleased with it. They consider it a dignified personal interpretation of the subject and appropriate for its intended location. Therefore, in behalf of the Commission of Fine Arts, I have pleasure in approving the model.

Mr. Owst offers a possible suggestion that the diameter of the circular upper base be increased in width one or one-and-a-half inches.

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,

Chairman.

Mr. Lee Lawrie, Sculptor,
Locust Lane Farm,
Easton, Maryland.

Exhibit C

79TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. J. RES. 84

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 12 (legislative day, JULY 9), 1945

Mr. MCMAHON (for himself and Mr. HART) introduced the following joint resolution; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Library

JOINT RESOLUTION

Authorizing the erection in the District of Columbia of a statue of Nathan Hale.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Interior is hereby authorized and directed to grant authority to the Second National Bank, of New Haven, Connecticut, executor of the estate of the late George Dudley Seymour, to erect the bronze statue of Nathan Hale, bequeathed by him to the United States of America, including pedestal, on an appropriate site on grounds now owned by the United States in the District of Columbia: *Provided,* That the site chosen shall be approved by the National Commission of Fine Arts, and the

Exhibit D

United States shall be put to no expense in or by the erection of this statue: *Provided further,* That unless the erection of this statue is begun within five years from and after the date of passage of this joint resolution, the authorization hereby granted is revoked.

79TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. J. RES. 84

JOINT RESOLUTION

Authorizing the erection in the District of Columbia of a statue of Nathan Hale.

By Mr. McMAHON and Mr. HART

JULY 12 (legislative day, JULY 9), 1945
Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Library

COPY

The Commission of Fine Arts

Washington

October 8, 1945.

Dear Senator McMahon:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on October 5, 1945, were pleased to consider with you the question of location for the statue of Nathan Hale that has been bequeathed to the United States by the late George Dudley Seymour.

After inspection of several locations, the Commission of Fine Arts unanimously recommend that the statue be placed on public grounds of the Department of Justice building, along Constitution Avenue about half way between the center of the building and either Ninth or Tenth Streets. At either one of these locations the statue would be silhouetted against a stone wall and face south, these being two very desirable features for a small bronze statue.

The Commission suggest that you confer with the Attorney General on the subject and secure his approval of a location on the grounds of the Department of Justice building as above indicated.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Hon. Brien McMahon,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

D-1

COPY

The Commission of Fine Arts

Washington

October 8, 1945.

Dear Senator McMahon:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on October 5, 1945, were pleased to consider with you the question of location for the statue of Mathan Hale that has been bequeathed to the United States by the late George Dudley Seymour.

After inspection of several locations, the Commission of Fine Arts unanimously recommend that the statue be placed on public grounds of the Department of Justice building, along Constitution Avenue about half way between the center of the building and either Ninth or Tenth Streets. At either one of these locations the statue would be silhouetted against a stone wall and face south, these being two very desirable features for a small bronze statue.

The Commission suggest that you confer with the Attorney General on the subject and secure his approval of a location on the grounds of the Department of Justice building as above indicated.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Hon. Brien McMahon,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

JOINT RESOLUTION S. J. RES. 84

October 9, 1945.

Dear Mr. Hemingway:

With reference to your letter of September 12th, addressed to Mr. Caemmerer, I am pleased to inform you that at the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts held on October 5, 1945, matters pertaining to the statue of Nathan Hale to be erected in the National Capital received particular attention.

The Commission have to advise that the sum of $3500.00 will be necessary for a suitable granite pedestal. There is considerable expense attached to a granite pedestal in addition to the cost of the stone itself, such as honing, carving the inscription and the like. Please advise me as soon as possible whether or not the Executor of the Estate of the late George DudleyqSeymour will make this sum available in addition to the $1000.00 needed for general expenses of transportation of the statue, setting it up in Washington, etc.

The Commission had a very satisfactory conference concerning the statue with Senator Brien McMahon on the subject of location and it is believed that this phase of the project will soon be settled.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Louis L. Hemingway,
Trust Officer,
The Second National Bank,
New Haven, Connecticut.

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman

Exhibit D-2

Exhibit D-5

Dear Mr. Commerford:

Dear Mr. Hemingway:

Mr. Louis I. Hemingway,
Trust Officer,
The Second National Bank,
New Haven, Connecticut.

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman

Sincerely yours,

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

and it is believed that this phase of the project will soon be settled.

The Commission had a very satisfactory conference concerning the status with Senator Brien McMahon on the subject of location in Washington, etc.

General expenses of transportation of the statue, setting it up the Executor of the Estate of the late George Dudley Seymour will make this sum available in addition to the $1000.00 needed for the like. Please advise us as soon as possible whether or not the above itself, such as bonding, carving the inscription and expense attached to a granite pedestal in addition to the cost of be necessary for a suitable granite pedestal. There is considerable National Capital received particular attention.

The Commission have to advise that the sum of $5000.00 will pertaining to the statue of Nathan Hale to be erected in the of the Commission of Fine Arts held on October 3, 1940, matters to Mr. Commerford, I am pleased to inform you that at the meeting With reference to your letter of September 12th, addressed

October 9, 1940.

79TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 524

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 22, 1945

Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs

AN ACT

To provide for one national cemetery in every State and Territory and such other national cemeteries in the States, Territories, and possessions as may be needed for the burial of war veterans.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War is authorized and directed to acquire, by donation, purchase, condemnation, or otherwise, in each State and Territory of the United States in which there is not situated on the date of enactment of this Act a national cemetery, a suitable site wherever practicable within such State or Territory for the establishment thereon of a national cemetery.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of War is authorized to acquire, by donation, purchase, condemnation, or otherwise, in States (including the District of Columbia) having a population of five hundred thousand or more, and in the Territories and possessions of the United States, (1) suitable sites for the establishment thereon of such additional national cemeteries, and (2) land adjoining existing national cemeteries for the extension of such national cemeteries, as the Secretary of War may determine to be needed for the burial of war veterans.

SEC. 3. Upon the acquisition of such land by the United States, the Secretary of War is authorized and directed to establish thereon national cemeteries, and to provide for the care and maintenance of such national cemeteries.

SEC. 4. Before any design and building material is accepted for use in any national cemetery, the Secretary of War shall obtain with respect thereto the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts.

SEC. 5. The Secretary of War is authorized to prescribe such regulations, not in conflict with the provisions hereof, for the administration of this Act by the Quartermaster General as he may deem necessary.

SEC. 6. Section 4874 of the Revised Statutes (24 U. S. C. 275) is amended to read as follows:

"The superintendents of national cemeteries shall here-

after be selected from meritorious and trustworthy officers, warrant officers, or enlisted men of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard, who have been honorably discharged, relieved from active duty, or transferred to a reserve component, and who may have been disabled for active service in line of duty. Personnel engaged in the administration and operation of national cemeteries (other than superintendents) shall hereafter be selected, when available, from meritorious and trustworthy officers, warrant officers, or enlisted men of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard, who have been honorably discharged, relieved from active duty, or transferred to a reserve component."

SEC. 7. The Act entitled "An Act to provide for a national cemetery in every State", approved June 29, 1938 (52 Stat. 1233; 24 U. S. C. 271a), and the Act entitled "An Act to authorize an appropriation for the purpose of establishing a national cemetery at Honolulu, Territory of Hawaii", approved November 21, 1941 (55 Stat. 772), are hereby repealed.

Passed the Senate June 21, 1945.

Attest: LESLIE L. BIFFLE,

Secretary.

79TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 524

AN ACT

To provide for one national cemetery in every State and Territory and such other national cemeteries in the States, Territories, and possessions as may be needed for the burial of war veterans.

JUNE 22, 1945

Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs

COPY

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Washington

June 21, 1945.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

For many years the Commission of Fine Arts have strongly advocated the acquisition, by the Government, of those lands in Virginia lying immediately north of Arlington National Cemetery as far as the so-called Lee Boulevard and extending east to the boundary Channel. It is our considered judgment that this area should be in the ownership of the Government in perpetuity so as to retain the full value of the wooded and open lands as an appropriate adjunct to the Cemetery.

While it is realized thatmuch of the area referred to is steep and possibly unsuited for graves we feel, nevertheless, that a more natural and more suitable north boundary for Arlington National Cemetery is the line of the Lee Boulevard. Present private owners of at least one of the larger parcels of land within the area referred to contemplate the construction of a large apartment house or houses which would forever destroy the open character of the property and seriously impair the quiet charm and dignity of one of our great national shrines, Arlington.

We have brought this matter to your attention because we believe that you recognize the importance of forever protecting the dignity of the final resting place of many of the heroic dead of the Armed Forces and because we realize that Bill H. 524, introduced by Senator Hill, and the companion Bill H. R. 3182, introduced by Representatives May, would give the Secretary of War authority to enlarge existing national cemeteries, and to provide for their care and maintenance.

Exhibit F

Exhibit B

cemeteries, and to provide for their care and maintenance.

give the Secretary of War authority to enlarge existing national the companion Bill H. R. 8182, introduced by Representatives May, would and because we realize that Bill S. 694, introduced by Senator Hill, and the final resting place of many of the heroic dead of the Armed Forces that you recognize the importance of forever protecting the dignity of

We have brought this matter to your attention because we believe quiet charm and dignity of one of our great national shrines, Arlington, ever destroy the open character of the property and seriously impair the the construction of a large apartment house or homes which would for- one of the larger parcels of land within the area referred to contemplate in the line of the Lee Boulevard. Present private owners of at least and possibly unwitted for graves we feel, nevertheless, that a more natural and more suitable north boundary for Arlington National Cemetery

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June 21, 1945.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

For many years the Commission of Fine Arts have strongly

Washington

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

COPY

I would feel remiss in this pleas if I failed to add still another pertinent reason for recommending the acquisition of the lands previously referred to. They lie in a position in Virginia on the axis of the Mall extended across the Potomac from the District of Columbia. Thus this wooded hillside and these open fields form a quiet background of green, a frame if you please for the Lincoln Memorial and the westerly end of the Central Composition of the National Capital. It seems to the Commission of Fine Arts that it would be wholly incongrous if this Virginia terminus of the Mall should be materially altered from the existing status of forest and fields to an area built up with brick apartment houses. Since we believe that the lands in question may be thoroughly appropriate as an added area for Arlington National Cemetery and since the pending legislation would give the Secretary of War authority to acquire these lands, the Commission of Fine Arts respectfully solicit your intesest in a matter whichwe believe to be most important for the preservation of the beauty and the dignity of the entire National Capital, as well as that of the Arlington National Cemetery.

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman

Hon. Henry L. Stimson,
Secretary of War,
Washington, D. C.

I would feel remiss in this place if I failed to add still another pertinent reason for recommending the acquisition of the lands previously referred to. They lie in a position in Virginia on the axis of the Mall extended across the Potomac from the District of Columbia. Thus this wooded hillside and these open fields form a quiet background of green, a frame if you please for the Lincoln Memorial and the westerly end of the Central Composition of the National Capital. It seems to the Commission of Fine Arts that it would be wholly incongruous if this existing stetion of forest and fields to an area built up with brick apartment houses. Since we believe that the lands in question may be thoroughly appropriate as an added area for Arlington National Cemetery and since the pending legislation would give the Secretary of War authority to acquire these lands, the Commission of Fine Arts respectfully solicit your interest in a matter which we believe to be most important for the preservation of the beauty and the dignity of the entire National Capital, as well as that of the Arlington National Cemetery.

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman

Hon. Henry L. Stimson,

Secretary of War,

Washington, D. C.

WAR DEPARTMENT

Washington

July 23, 1945

H. R. 541

Honorable Gilmore D. Clarke
Chairman, Commission of Fine Arts
Interior Department Building
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Clarke:

Your letter of June 21 in which you urge acquisition of certain lands in Virginialying immediately north of Arlington National Cemetery has been receiving careful consideration by officials of this Department.

Should certain proposed legislation now pending before the Congress be enacted into law, a thorough study will be made of the Arlington National Cemetery as to the need for additional acreage for burial sites and peripheral protection zone.

The above mentioned study will give full consideration to the sound thoughts and suggestions contained in your letter and you will be advised of the final decision in the matter.

Sincerely yours,

(SIGNED) Robert P. Patterson
Acting Secretary of War

Exhibit F-1

WAR DEPARTMENT

Washington

July 25, 1945

Honorable Gilmore D. Clarke
Chairman, Commission of Fine Arts
Interior Department Building
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Clarke:

Your letter of June 21 in which you urge acquisition of certain lands in Virginia lying immediately north of Arlington National Cemetery has been receiving careful consideration by officials of this Department.

Should certain proposed legislation now pending before the Congress be enacted into law, a thorough study will be made of the Arlington National Cemetery as to the need for additional acreage for burial sites and peripheral protection zone.

The above mentioned study will give full consideration to the ground thoughts and suggestions contained in your letter and you will be advised of the final decision in the matter.

Sincerely yours,

(SIGNED) Robert P. Patterson
Acting Secretary of War

Exhibit P-1

79TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 541

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 3, 1945

Mr. RANDOLPH introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce

A BILL

Authorizing and directing the Commissioners of the District of Columbia to construct two four-lane bridges to replace the existing Fourteenth Street or Highway Bridge across the Potomac River, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Commissioners of the District of Columbia are authorized and directed to construct two four-lane bridges across the Potomac River to replace the existing Fourteenth Street or Highway Bridge, together with bridge approaches and roads connecting such bridges and approaches with streets and park roads in the District of Columbia and with roads and park roads on the Virginia side of the Potomac

River, the south-bound bridge to be constructed as nearly as practicable in the location of the existing Fourteenth Street or Highway Bridge, and the north-bound bridge to be constructed within six hundred feet of the downstream side of the existing Fourteenth Street or Highway Bridge, at a cost not to exceed $7,000,000.

SEC. 2. The Federal agencies having control and jurisdiction over the lands at and adjacent to the ends of the two bridges shall transfer to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, upon their request, the areas to be occupied by said bridges, approaches, and connecting roads, all as more particularly described on plans of said bridges, approaches, and connecting roads approved by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia and the Public Roads Administration.

SEC. 3. The Commissioners of the District of Columbia are authorized to acquire by purchase or by condemnation any and all lands not under Federal jurisdiction or control in the State of Virginia needed for said bridges, approaches, and connecting roads, title to such land to be taken directly to and in the name of the United States; and in case a price satisfactory to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia cannot be agreed upon for the purchase of such land or in case the title cannot be made satisfactory to the Attorney General of the United States, then the latter is directed to procure such land by condemnation, and the expenses of

procuring evidence of title, or condemnation, or both, shall be paid from funds made available for the purposes of this Act. Jurisdiction and control over any land acquired under the authority of this Act shall be transferred to the District of Columbia.

SEC. 4. The Commissioners of the District of Columbia are authorized to make such use of federally owned and controlled lands at and adjacent to the north and south ends of the respective bridges as may be necessary for making borings, performing other preliminary work, routing and rerouting traffic, constructing said bridges, approaches, and connecting roads, and storing of materials incident to such preliminary work and to actual construction.

SEC. 5. The Commissioners of the District of Columbia are authorized and directed to route and reroute and to cause the routing and rerouting of traffic on, and to close or cause to be closed, park roads, streets, and highways under the jurisdiction of the United States, and to negotiate for the closing of roads by contact with Virginia authorities, when necessary in connection with the preparation of plans for, and during the actual construction of, said bridges, approaches, and connecting roads. The Commissioners of the District of Columbia are further authorized to prepare plans for such changes in park roads as they deem necessary to provide maximum efficiency in handling traffic to and from

said bridges, and, when such plans are approved by the Public Roads Administration, to construct roads in conformity with such approved plans.

SEC. 6. The National Capital Park Service is authorized and directed to remove or transplant to other locations any and all planting materials within the area to be used for the bridges, approaches, and connecting roads or for construction purposes, when requested by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia. The Commissioners of the District of Columbia are authorized and directed to regrade the areas involved in the construction of the bridges, approaches, and connecting roads so as to conform with plans approved by them and the Public Roads Administration. Upon completion of said bridges, approaches, and connecting roads and the regrading of the areas, or prior thereto, when authorized by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia and when such operation or operations will not interfere with the construction of said bridges, approaches, and connecting roads, the National Capital Park Service is directed to landscape such areas in accordance with plans of the National Capital Park Service as may be approved by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia and the Public Roads Administration, the cost of said landscaping to be paid out of funds made available for the purposes of this Act.

SEC. 7. That the cost of construction, reconstruction, and repair of all roads which are changed or made necessary as an incident to the construction of said bridges, approaches, and connecting roads, when approved by the Commissioners of the District of Columbia and the Public Roads Administration, shall be paid out of funds made available for construction of said bridges, approaches, and connecting roads.

79TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 541

A BILL

Authorizing and directing the Commissioners of the District of Columbia to construct two four-lane bridges to replace the existing Fourteenth Street or Highway Bridge across the Potomac River, and for other purposes.

By Mr. RANDOLPH

JANUARY 3, 1945

Referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce

COPY

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

WASHINGTON

October 8, 1945.

Dear Dr. Rowe:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on October 5, 1945, were pleased to confer with you regarding your proposed Pan American Annex.

The Commission took note of the fact that the Commissioners of the District of Columbia are opposed to Plan O, which contemplates placing the Annex on the line of Eighteenth Street and closing a portion of Virginia Avenue. Also, the Commission understand that you do not favor a location which would place the Annex remote from the Pan American Union building.

Therefore, the Commission of Fine Arts believe that the best available location for the Pan American Annex is that specified by Congress in the Act approved December 23, 1929, namely on the triangle bounded on the north by Virginia Avenue and on the west by Nineteenth Street. At that location the building would face Constitution Avenue and become part of the Frame of marble buildings for the Lincoln Memorial.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Hon. L. S. Rowe,
Director General,
Pan American Union,
Washington, D. C.

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman

Exhibit H

THE DIRECTOR GENERAL

PAN AMERICAN UNION

Washington, D. C.

October 10, 1945.

My dear Mr. Chairman:

I want to thank you most cordially for your letter of October 8th, transmitting the recommendation of the Commission of Fine Arts. I feel certain that this recommendation will be most helpful in securing a solution of our problem.

Very cordially yours,

(SIGNED) L. S. Rowe
Director General

Gilmore D. Clarke, F.A.I.A.
Chairman, The Commission of Fine Arts,
Interior Department Building,
Washington.

H. R. 4276

October 9, 1945.

Dear Mr. Underwood:

The design which you submitted for a proposed Hangar Cafeteriaat the Washington National Airport received the attention of the Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on October 5, 1945.

T he Commission noted the location designated for the cafeteria and have no objection to the erection of the building there.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Mr. Gilbert Stanley Underwood,
Supervising Architect,
Public Buildings Administration,
Federal Works Agency,
Washington, D. C.

Exhibit I

Exhibit I

October 9, 1945.

Mr. Gilbert Stanley Underwood,
Supervising Architect,
Public Buildings Administration,
Federal Works Agency,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Underwood:

The design which you submitted for a proposed Hangar Cafeteria and the Washington National Airport received the attention of the Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on October 6, 1945.

The Commission noted the location designated for the cafeteria and have no objection to the erection of the building there.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

79TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4276

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 3, 1945

Mr. LANHAM introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds

A BILL

To provide for the construction of public buildings, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "Public Buildings Act of 1945".

TITLE I—PUBLIC BUILDINGS OUTSIDE THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

SEC. 1. (a) In order that the Public Buildings Administration may be prepared to start the construction outside the District of Columbia of projects previously selected and for which funds, or contract authorizations have been provided, and for such new projects as may be deemed nec-

essary by the Federal Works Administrator (and the Postmaster General where his department is involved), the Federal Works Administrator is authorized to acquire, by purchase, condemnation, donation, exchange, or otherwise, lands or interest in lands as sites or additions to sites for said projects and, prior or subsequent to approval of title by the Attorney General, to cause to be prepared drawings and specifications for such projects, and to have performed all work incident to the accomplishment thereof, notwithstanding the fact that appropriations for construction work shall not have been made. Selection of new projects for the foregoing purposes shall be made by the Federal Works Administrator and the Postmaster General from the list contained in their revised report dated September 25, 1945, and printed as House Document Numbered ——: *Provided,* That in making such selections they shall endeavor to distribute new and previously selected projects equitably throughout the United States, and may also select for prosecution projects not included in such report as in their judgment are economically sound and advantageous to the public service: *Provided further,* That the limits of cost specified in the said revised report shall govern in the cases of previously selected as well as new projects.

(b) The Federal Works Administrator and the Postmaster General (where his department is involved) shall from

time to time, but not less frequently than every two years, submit to Congress revised reports showing the location of all public-building projects throughout the United States and its possessions which they may deem necessary to be constructed, such reports to indicate the limits of cost for each such building or project, and in order to provide a continuing program of public construction within the limit of such legislative authority as Congress may enact the selection of new projects from such revised reports may be made from time to time in the manner hereinbefore outlined.

SEC. 2. (a) The balances of appropriations and contractual authorizations heretofore made for the construction of projects outside the District of Columbia are hereby made available for the purposes specified in section 1 as they relate to previously selected projects and for the construction of such projects: *Provided,* That when in the public interest it is found necessary to cancel any such projects, other projects may be selected: *Provided further,* That the revised total limit of cost for all such projects shall not exceed $95,000,000.

(b) The sum of $98,000,000 is hereby authorized to be appropriated for the construction of new projects to be selected as specified in section 1.

SEC. 3. When the lowest responsible bid for the principal contract work, or for a major subdivision of the work, on any one project outside the District of Columbia exceeds

the funds estimated to be available for that portion of the work, the Federal Works Administrator is authorized to increase the limit of cost of the project as approved by the Congress by not more than 10 per centum in order that a contract, or contracts, for such work may be awarded: *Provided,* That the total of the limits of cost of all projects in a single program shall not be exceeded.

TITLE II—PUBLIC BUILDINGS IN AND NEAR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

SEC. 201. The Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized under the provisions of the Public Buildings Act of May 25, 1926, as amended (40 U. S. C. 341–347), to construct the following buildings in or near the District of Columbia for, but not limited to, the use of the Government activities indicated and under the limits of cost specified:

(a) An additional building for the General Accounting Office, in square 529 of the District of Columbia, including a tunnel to connect the additional building with the building authorized by the First Supplemental Civil Functions Appropriation Act, 1941 (54 Stat. 1036), under a revised total limit of cost of $18,900,000 for the two buildings. The unobligated balances of appropriations heretofore made for the building previously authorized are hereby made available for the enlarged project.

(b) State Department Building, in square 167 of the District of Columbia, a portion of which was purchased for a State Department Annex Building (55 Stat. 107), under a total limit of cost of $18,000,000.

(c) Navy Department Building or buildings, within the area lying South of G Street Northwest, between Virginia Avenue and Twenty-third Street on the east and the Potomac River on the west, in the District of Columbia, under a total limit of cost of $46,500,000.

(d) Extension of the building located at Twenty-first Street and Virginia Avenue Northwest (War Department), on Government-owned land in the District of Columbia, under a revised total limit of cost of $29,500,000 for the entire project.

(e) Administrative offices of the National Bureau of Standards, on Government-owned land, under a total limit of cost of $3,650,000.

(f) A building or buildings, on Government-owned land, for the servicing and storage of film records for the National Archives and the Library of Congress, under a total limit of cost of $5,000,000.

(g) A building or buildings, on Government-owned land, for the storage of valuable records of the Federal Government, under a total limit of cost of $6,500,000.

(h) A Federal office building, under a total limit of cost of $20,000,000.

(i) A building for use of building operation facilities of the Public Buildings Administration, under a total limit of cost of $2,800,000.

SEC. 202. The Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized, under the provisions of the Public Buildings Act of May 25, 1926, as amended (40 U. S. C. 341–347), to acquire land where necessary and to construct for the Smithsonian Institution the following buildings and facilities:

(a) A building on a suitable site in the Mall for a historical museum to include space for the exhibition of the historical collection of the Nation, including naval and military collections, memorabilia of noted Americans, philately, and numismatics, under a total limit of cost of $6,600,000.

(b) A building for the engineering and industrial collections of the Nation, including aviation, under a total limit of cost of $9,150,000.

(c) Additional facilities at the National Zoological Park, including an aquarium, a lion house, an antelope house, a monkey house and monkey island, and barless pits and paddocks, under a total limit of cost of $2,645,000.

SEC. 203. In carrying out the provisions of sections 201 and 202 of this title, the Federal Works Administrator is authorized to acquire by purchase, condemnation, or otherwise,

lands or interests in lands as sites or additions to sites for the projects specified therein and, prior or subsequent to approval of title by the Attorney General, to cause to be prepared drawings and specifications for such projects, to redesign presently authorized buildings where necessary, and to have performed all work incident to the accomplishment thereof, notwithstanding the fact that appropriations for construction work shall not have been made.

SEC. 204. The Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized to acquire squares 59, 82, 123, and south of 104, and such parts of squares 81, 104, 122, and 62, in the District of Columbia, necessary to the completion of the grounds, parking, and approaches required in the development of the Northwest Rectangle group of Federal buildings, under a total limit of cost of $3,160,000.

SEC. 205. The area within which sites, or additions to sites, for public buildings in the District of Columbia may be acquired is hereby extended to include the area bounded by First Street Northeast and Southeast, B Street Northeast, B Street Southeast, and the Anacostia River; also, the blocks numbered 1082, 1093, 1118, 1125, and southeast of 1068 bounded by Fifteenth Street, North Carolina Avenue, C Street, Twenty-first Street, and B Street Northeast.

TITLE III—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

SEC. 301. The last two provisos of section 2 of the Act of August 27, 1935, as amended (40 U. S. C. 304b), beginning with the words: "*Provided further*, That the amount so charged against any Federal agency * * *" to the end of the section are hereby repealed.

Section 3 of the Act of August 27, 1935, as amended (40 U. S. C. 304c), is hereby amended to read as follows:

The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to procure space by lease, on such terms and for such period not in excess of five years as he may deem in the public interest, for the housing of any Federal agency or agencies outside of the District of Columbia, except the Post Office Department, and to assign and reassign such space. To the extent that the appropriations of the Public Buildings Administration not otherwise required are inadequate therefor, the Commissioner of Public Buildings may require each Federal agency to which leased space has been assigned to pay promptly by check to the Public Buildings Administration out of its available appropriations, either in advance or during occupancy of such space, all or part of the estimated cost of rent, repairs, alterations, maintenance, operation, and moving: *Provided*, That when space in a building is occupied by two or more agencies, the Commissioner of Public Buildings shall determine and equitably apportion rental, operation,

and other charges on the basis of the total amount of space so leased.

SEC. 302. The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to maintain a survey of the use of Government owned and leased office space in the larger metropolitan centers and the District of Columbia, including adjacent areas, and to study and determine the extent to which consolidation, reassignment, and reallocation of office space, including the cancellation of uneconomical leases, would be advantageous to the Government. Where he finds uneconomical use of space in buildings operated or leased by the Public Buildings Administration, he shall direct and prescribe its economical use or its surrender. Where such conditions are found to exist in space operated or leased by others than the Public Buildings Administration, he shall report his findings to those responsible therefor to the end that economical use of office space and cooperation between all agencies of the Government on space problems may be achieved. This section shall not apply to buildings under the supervision of the Architect of the Capitol nor to buildings operated by the Post Office Department.

SEC. 303. That portion of the Act of March 2, 1913 (40 U. S. C. 36), pertaining to the leasing of storage space in the District of Columbia, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to

enter into contracts for the leasing, for periods of not exceeding five years, of storage accommodations within the District of Columbia for the use of the several activities of the Government, subject to the provisions of section 322 of the Act of June 30, 1932, as amended (40 U. S. C. 278a), payable from appropriations that Congress may from time to time make for rent of buildings in the District of Columbia."

SEC. 304. The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to procure and operate public utility communications services in and between buildings under the administration and management of the Public Buildings Administration, in and outside the District of Columbia, where it is found that such service is economical and in the interest of the Government.

SEC. 305. The Commissioner of Public Buildings shall have exclusive authority in all buildings operated by the Public Buildings Administration to enter into contracts, upon such terms and conditions as he may find to be in the public interest and without securing competitive bids, for food services in building designed to include such facilities or where such services are subsequently found to be necessary; to establish rules and regulations for the operation thereof; and to make all sanitary inspections in connection therewith.

SEC. 306. Effective on the date of this enactment, all office furniture and rugs, excepting that purchased by Gov-

ernment-owned corporations, which are now or may hereafter be located in Government-owned or leased buildings in and outside the District of Columbia, operated by the Public Buildings Administration, shall be and remain in its custody and under its control without exchange of funds and irrespective of the appropriations from which the furniture was or may be procured or the source from which it was obtained. Effective July 1, 1946, unless specifically so provided, appropriations other than appropriations to the Public Buildings Administration shall not be available for the purchase of furniture and rugs in such buildings.

SEC. 307. Hereafter, when part of the cost of construction of a public-building project has been appropriated by Congress, the Federal Works Administrator may enter into contracts for construction work within the full limit of cost fixed by Congress therefor.

SEC. 308. Hereafter, the Commissioner of Public Buildings only shall be required to approve sketches, plans, and estimates for buildings to be constructed by the Public Buildings Administration, except in the case of buildings designed for post-office purposes which shall be approved by the Commissioner of Public Buildings and the Postmaster General.

SEC. 309. The provisions of section 322 of the Act of June 30, 1932, as amended (40 U. S. C. 278a), shall not

apply with respect to the rental of temporary quarters for housing Federal activities during the replacement or remodeling of buildings by the Public Buildings Administration.

SEC. 310. Section 5 of the Public Buildings Act of May 25, 1926 (44 Stat. 630), is hereby amended to delete the following words which appear at the end thereof: "and to charge against the total sum of $150,000,000 hereinbefore authorized only the respective net excess cost, if any, over and above the proceeds of such sales, or providing such new sites and buildings" and after the words "miscellaneous receipts" change the comma to a period.

SEC. 311. The Commissioner of Public Buildings is authorized to contract for seeding, planting, or landscaping the grounds of any public building constructed by the Public Buildings Administration in an amount not exceeding $1,000 without reference to section 3709 of the Revised Statutes.

SEC. 312. In the prosecution of construction projects or planning programs assigned to the Public Buildings Administration for which funds are provided by direct appropriation or transferred under authority contained in the Act of June 15, 1938 (40 U. S. C. 265), an amount administratively determined as necessary for the payment of salaries and expenses of personnel engaged upon the preparation of plans and specifications, field supervision, and general office expense, may be transferred and consolidated on the books

of the Treasury Department into a special account for direct expenditure in the prosecution of said work, such expenditures to be subsequently allocated and reported upon by projects in accordance with procedures prescribed by the General Accounting Office.

SEC. 313. The Federal Works Administrator is hereby authorized to dispose of that parcel of land situated in the city of Washington, District of Columbia, described as lot numbered 71 in square 234, improved by premises 2218, Thirteenth Street Northwest, together with the improvements thereon, in such manner and upon such terms as he may deem to be for the best interest of the United States, to convey the said land, together with improvements thereon, to the purchaser thereof by quitclaim deed, and to deposit the proceeds of said sale in the Treasury of the United States as miscellaneous receipts.

SEC. 314. The Commissioner of Public Buildings, together with the Postmaster General where his office is concerned, is authorized to accept on behalf of the United States unconditional gifts of real, personal, or other property in aid of any project or function within their respective jurisdictions.

SEC. 315. All Acts and parts of Acts inconsistent or in conflict with the foregoing provisions are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency or conflict.

79TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4276

A BILL

To provide for the construction of public buildings, and for other purposes.

By Mr. LANHAM

OCTOBER 3, 1945

Referred to the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds

COPY

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Washington

October 15, 1945.

Dear Mr. Lanham:

At their meeting on October 5, 1945, the Commission of Fine Arts had before them for consideration a copy of H. R. 4276, "To provide for the construction of public buildings, and for other purposes."

The Commission are interested in this proposed building program for the District of Columbia, and believe that it is important to the Members of the Congress that buildings contemplated for construction in this pending legislation conform to the high standards of architectural design already established in Washington. To bring this about certain changes in the Bill seem to the Commission to be desirable.

We believe it is the desire of the Congress that designs for all public buildings to be erected in the District of Columbia be submitted to the Commission of Fine Arts for their advice and approval, as has obtained for more than thirty-five years, and also that the National Capital Park and Planning Commission be called upon to render such advice as may be appropriate in the circumstances.

Sections 308 and 315 of H. R. 4276 nullify these requirements and would leave the office of the Public Buildings Administration free to do as it may please, in so far as the design and the location of public buildings in the District of Columbia are concerned. It is respectfully recommended, therefore, that Section 308 be delated and that Section 315 be amended to read as follows:

> All Acts and parts of Acts inconsistent or in conflict with the foregoing provisions, except in so far as the requirement of submitting for approval plans for public buildings in the City of Washington to the Commission of Fine Arts and to the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency and conflict.

In the past the Commission of Fine Arts have had splendid cooperation from the Commissioner of Public Buildings, and we feel confident that he will not object to the suggestion that designs for buildings be submitted to this Commission for review, recommendation, and approval as has been the custom.

While it would appear from Section 201 of H. R. 4276 that the policy of securing "outside professional service," is the same as

Exhibit 8-1

COPY

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Washington

October 15, 1945.

Dear Mr. Lanham:

At their meeting on October 5, 1945, the Commission of Fine Arts had before them for consideration a copy of H. R. 4276, "To provide for the construction of public buildings, and for other purposes."

The Commission are interested in this proposed building program for the District of Columbia, and believe that it is important to the Members of the Congress that building contemplated for construction in this pending legislation conform to the high standards of architectural design already established in Washington. To bring this about certain changes in the Bill seem to the Commission to be desirable.

We believe it is the desire of the Congress that designs for all public buildings to be erected in the District of Columbia be submitted to the Commission of Fine Arts for their advice and approval, as has obtained for more than thirty-five years, and also that the National Capital Park and Planning Commission be called upon to render such advice as may be appropriate in the circumstances.

Sections 308 and 318 of H. R. 4276 nullify these requirements and would leave the office of the Public Buildings Administration free to do as it may please, in so far as the design and the location of public buildings in the District of Columbia are concerned. It is respectfully recommended, therefore, that Section 318 be deleted and that Section 319 be amended to read as follows:

> All plans and parts of plans inconsistent or in conflict with the foregoing provisions, except in so far as the requirements of submitting for approval plans for public buildings in the City of Washington to the Commission of Fine Arts and to the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency and conflict.

In the past the Commission of Fine Arts have had splendid cooperation from the Commissioner of Public Buildings, and we feel confident that he will not object to the suggestion that designs for buildings be submitted to this Commission for review, recommendation and approval as has been the custom.

While it would appear from Section 201 of H. R. 4276 that the policy of securing "suitable professional services," is the same as

authorized under the provisions of the Public Buildings Act of May 25, 1926, the Commission of Fine Arts feel that these provisions should be strengthened. You will recall that the professional services of outstanding architects and firms of architects were engaged to aid in carrying out the provisions of the Public Buildings Act of 1926 and that funds were also made available for the appropriate embellishment of these buildings by both sculptors and mural painters. In order to secure the quality of professional services, which we believe should obtain in connection with this contemplated building program in the National Capital, it is our judgment that an amendment to Section 201 of H. R. 4276 is desirable; we therefore respectfully suggest the following:

> In the case of buildings to cost $500,000 or more, the Commissioner of Public Buildings shall employ the services of such architects, engineers, sculptors, mural painters and other personnel as shall be determined to be necessary without reference to Civil Service requirements, at rates of compensation agreed upon between such individuals or firms.

The National Capital has had a long and interesting history with respect to its aesthetic development and the Commission of Fine Arts are proud to have had a part in the notable development which has taken place during the past thirty-five years. Since the building program, contemplated under H. R. 4276, may be even larger than that which followed World War I, it is evident that a great responsibility will be placed upon all of those charged with the task of keeping the City of Washington worthy of the dignity, the wealth, and the power of this Nation. This Commission are prepared to cooperate with the Congress and with the Public Buildings Administration to the end that this proposed new development may be in keeping with the high standards of excellence which should obtain in the City of Washington.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Hon. Fritz G. Lanham, Chairman,
Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

authorized under the provisions of the Public Buildings Act of May 25, 1926, the Commission of Fine Arts feel that these provisions should be strengthened. You will recall that the professional services of outstanding architects and firms of architects were engaged to aid in carrying out the provisions of the Public Buildings Act of 1926 and that funds were also made available for the appropriate embellishment of these buildings by both sculptors and mural painters. In order to secure the quality of professional services, which we believe should obtain in connection with this contemplated building program in the National Capital, it is our judgment that an amendment to Section 201 of H. R. 4270 is desirable; we therefore respectfully suggest the following:

> In the case of buildings to cost $500,000 or more, the Commissioner of Public Buildings shall employ the services of such architects, engineers, sculptors, mural painters and other personnel as shall be determined to be necessary without reference to Civil Service requirements, at rates of compensation agreed upon between such individuals or firms.

The National Capital has had a long and interesting history with respect to its aesthetic development and the Commission of Fine Arts are proud to have had a part in the notable development which has taken place during the past thirty-five years. Since the building program contemplated under H. R. 4270, may be even larger than that which followed World War I, it is evident that a great responsibility will be placed upon all of those charged with the task of keeping the City of Washington worthy of the dignity, the wealth, and the power of this Nation. This Commission are prepared to cooperate with the Congress and with the Public Buildings Administration to the end that this proposed new development may be in keeping with the high standards of excellence which should obtain in the City of Washington.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

hon. Frits G. Lanham, Chairman,
Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

October 15, 1945.

Dear Senator Andrews:

For your information I attach herewith copy of a communication which The Commission of Fine Arts directed me to address to the Honorable Fritz G. Lanham, Chairman of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, of the House of Representatives, together with a copy of H. R. 4276 referred to in that communication.

It occurred to me that since the subject of this Bill, "To provide for the construction of public buildings, and for other purposes," would come before the Senate that you should be informed of the view of this Commission with respect to the first draft of the Bill before the House of Representatives.

If you would like to have me discuss with you the attitude of the Commission of Fine Arts, as expressed in the attached letter, I shall be vey happy indeed to do so.

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

2 enclosures

Hon. Charles O. Andrews, Chairman,
Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

J-2

October 15, 1948.

Dear Senator Andrews:

For your information I attach herewith copy of a communication which The Commission of Fine Arts directed me to address to the Honorable Fritz G. Lanham, Chairman of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, of the House of Representatives, together with a copy of H. R. 6219 referred to in that communication.

It occurred to me that since the subject of this Bill, "To provide for the construction of public buildings, and for other purposes," would come before the Senate that you should be informed of the view of this Commission with respect to the first draft of the Bill before the House of Representatives.

If you would like to have me discuss with you the attitude of the Commission of Fine Arts, as expressed in the attached letter, I shall be very happy indeed to do so.

Sincerely yours,

2 enclosures

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Hon. Charles O. Andrews, Chairman,
Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

October 26, 1945

Dear Captain Whitehurst:

At the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts held on October 5, 1945, the Commission were informed of extensive plans for Dupont Circle Underpass.

Accordingly, it was felt that there are certain problems in connection with the Underpass with which the Commission are particularly concerned. I would like to ask, on behalf of the Commission of Fine Arts, that when preliminary plans are made a set be submitted for comment. We are more specially concerned with the treatment of portals, walls and pedestraian entrance structures and in the redesign of the Dupont Circle park area. We trust that the tunnel approaches may be improved architecturally over those previously built in the District of Columbia, since Dupont Circle is among the most important of the minor park area in the District.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman

Capt. H. C. Whitehurst, Director,
Department of Highways,
District Building,
Washington, D. C.

Exhibit K

October 26, 1948

Dear Captain Whitehurst:

At the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts held on October 8, 1948, the Commission were informed of extensive plans for Dupont Circle Underpass.

Accordingly, it was felt that there are certain problems in connection with the Underpass with which the Commission are particularly concerned. I would like to ask, on behalf of the Commission of Fine Arts, that when preliminary plans are made a set be submitted for comment. We are more especially concerned with the treatment of portals, walls and pedestrian entrance structures and in the redesign of the Dupont Circle park area. We trust that the tunnel approaches may be improved architecturally over those previously built in the District of Columbia, since Dupont Circle is among the most important of the minor park ares in the District.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman

Capt. H. C. Whitehurst, Director,
Department of Highways,
District Building,
Washington, D. C.

Exhibit K

October 20, 1945.

Dear Mr. Thompson:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on October 5, 1945, approved the revised design whixh you submitted for the overpass structures at the Riverdale Road on the Washington-Baltimore Parkway.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Mr. Harry T. Thompson,
Assistant Superintendent,
National Capital Parks,
National Park Service,
Department of theInterior,
Washington, D.C.

Exhibit L

October 20, 1945.

Dear Mr. Thompson:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on October 6, 1945, approved the revised design which you submitted for the overpass structures at the Riverdale Road on the Washington-Baltimore Parkway.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

Mr. Harry T. Thompson,
Assistant Superintendent,
National Capital Parks,
National Park Service,
Department of the Interior,
Washington, D.C.

Exhibit L

COPY FOR THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

The Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, The Commission of Fine Arts, and Miss Katharine N. Rhoades, as provided in Paragraph 4 of the Codicil to the Will of the late Charles L. Freer, have examined the following objects:

1 Bronze Tripod in three parts. Chinese.

1 Scroll Painting. Chinese, Ch'ing dynasty, by Sun Chih. Dated 1699.

1 Pottery bowl with blue dragon design. Chinese, Hsuan Te (1426-1435).

1 Pottery jar with blue dragon design. Chinese, Ming dynasty.

1 Porcelain vase. Chinese, Ch'kng dynasty, Ch'ken Lung period.

1 Leaf from a Koran. Egyptian, Mameluk period, 14th-15th century.

1 Painting. Indian, 17th century. Jahangir shooting at an emaciated dark-skinned man.

1 Painting. Indian, 17th century. Durbar scene of Jahangir by Abu'l-Hasan.

1 Painting. Indian, early 17th century. Jahangir standing on a globe supported by a bull and a fish. On reverse a picture of a vulture.

1 Painting. Indian, early 17th century, Akbar period. Noah's Ark.

1 Painting. Persian. Lion, Kilin and Dragon.

1 Painting. Persian. Timur entering Samarkand,

which have been recommended for purchase for the Freer Gallery of Art by Mr. A. G. Wenley, Director, and they hereby approve the purchase.

For the Regents of the Smithsonain Institution

October 5th, 1945

Gilmore D. Clarke, Chairman,
For the Commission of Fine Arts

Exhibit M

Katharine N. Rhoades.

COPY FOR THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

The Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, The Commission of Fine Arts, and Miss Katherine M. Rhoades, as provided in Paragraph 4 of the Codicil to the Will of the late Charles L. Freer, have examined the following objects:

1 Bronze Tripod in three parts. Chinese.

1 Scroll Painting. Chinese. Ch'ing dynasty, by Sun Chih. Dated 1899.

1 Pottery bowl with blue dragon design. Chinese. Hsuan Te (1426-1435).

1 Pottery jar with blue dragon design. Chinese. Ming dynasty.

1 Porcelain vase. Chinese. Ch'ing dynasty. Ch'ien Lung period.

1 Lamp from a Koran. Egyptian. Mamluk period. 14th-15th century.

1 Painting. Indian. 17th century. Jahangir shooting at an emaciated dark-skinned man.

1 Painting. Indian. 17th century. Darbar scene of Jahangir by Abu'l-Hasan.

1 Painting. Indian. early 17th century. Jahangir standing on a globe supported by a bull and a fish. On reverse a picture of a vulture.

1 Painting. Indian. early 17th century. Akbar period. Hoshi's Birth.

1 Painting. Persian. Lion, Kilin and Dragon.

1 Painting. Persian. Timur entering Samarkand.

which have been recommended for purchase for the Freer Gallery of Art by Mr. A. G. Wenley, Director, and they hereby approve the purchase.

October 5th, 1948

Exhibit M

For the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution

Gilmore D. Clarke, Chairman.

For the Commission of Fine Arts

Katherine M. Rhoades.

COPY FOR THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

The Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, The Commission of Fine Arts, and Miss Katharine N. Rhoades, as provided in Paragraph 4 of the Codicil to the Will of the late Charles L. Freer, have examined the following objects:

1 Painting. Chinese, Ch'ing dynasty. By Chou Hao.

4 Pieces of gold. Chinese, T'ang dynasty.

2 Pottery figures. Chinese, T'ang dynasty.

2 Pottery bottles, Chinese, Ch'ing dynasty, Yung Cheng period.

1 Bronze toilet box. Chinese, 6th-7th century,

which have been recommended for purchase for the Freer Gallery of Art by Mr. A. G. Wenley, Director, and they hereby approve the purchase.

A. Wetmore, Secretary
For the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

Gilmore D. Clarke, Chairman,
For The Commission of Fine Arts.

Katharine N. Rhoades.

October 5th, 1945.

May 15th, 1945.

COPY FOR THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

The Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, The Commission of Fine Arts, and Miss Katherine N. Rhoades, as provided in Paragraph 4 of the Codicil to the Will of the late Charles L. Freer, have examined the following objects:

1 Painting, Chinese, Ch'ing dynasty. By Chou Hao.

4 Pieces of gold, Chinese, T'ang dynasty.

2 Pottery figures. Chinese, T'ang dynasty.

2 Pottery bottles. Chinese, Ch'ing dynasty, Tung Chung period.

1 Bronze toilet box. Chinese, 6th-7th century.

which have been recommended for purchase for the Freer Gallery of Art by Mr. A. C. Wenley, Director, and they hereby approve the purchase.

A. Wetmore, Secretary
For the Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

Gilmore D. Clarke, Chairman,
For the Commission of Fine Arts.

Katherine N. Rhoades.

October 25th, 1945.

May 15th, 1945.

COPY

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
Washington

October 8, 1945.

Dear Senator Andrews:

In view of the death, recently, of Dr. Paul Philippe Cret, the Commission of Fine Arts unanimously recommend that his successors in office, the firm of Harbeson, Hough, Livingston and Larson, Architects, be appointed consulting architect for the pending plans to make changes in the United States Senate and House of Representatives chambers. These men were associated with Dr. Cret over a period of many years, and he had entire confidence in their ability to continue the work of the office in the spirit in which he conducted it.

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on October 5, 1945, were pleased to confer with you and other members of the Joint Congressional Committee having the proposed changes at the Capitol in charge. The Commission felt improvements could be made in the sketches presented, and the Commission will cooperate with the firm of architects above mentioned, with a view to having plans completed that will be satisfactory to your Committee.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Hon. Charles O. Andrews, Chairman,
Joint Congressional Committe,
United States Capitol,
Washington, D. C.

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

N

Exhibit N

COPY

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
Washington

October 6, 1942.

Dear Senator Andrews:

In view of the death, recently, of Dr. Paul Philippe Cret, the Commission of Fine Arts unanimously recommend that his successors in office, the firm of Harbeson, Hough, Livingston and Larson, Architects, be appointed consulting architect for the pending plans to make changes in the United States Senate and House of Representatives chambers. These men were associated with Dr. Cret over a period of many years, and he had entire confidence in their ability to continue the work of the office in the spirit in which he conducted it.

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on October 5, 1942, were pleased to confer with you and other members of the Joint Congressional Committee having the proposed changes at the Capitol in charge. The Commission felt improvements could be made in the sketches presented, and the Commission will cooperate with the firm of architects above mentioned, with a view to having plans completed that will be satisfactory to your Committee.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Hon. Charles O. Andrews, Chairman,
Joint Congressional Committee,
United States Capitol,
Washington, D. C.

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

COPY

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
Washington

October 8, 1945.

Dear Mr. Lanham:

In view of the death, recently, of Dr. Paul Philippe Cret, the Commission of Fine Arts unanimously recommend that his successors in office, the firm of Harbeson, Hough, Livingston and Larson, Architects, be appointed consulting architect for the pending plans to make changes in the United States Senate and House of Representatives chambers. These men were associated with Dr. Cret over a period of many years, and he had entire confidence in their ability to continue the work of the office in the spirit in which he conducted it.

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on October 5, 1945, were pleased to confer with you and other members of the Joint Congressional Committee having the proposed changes at the Capitol in charge. The Commission felt improvements could be made in the sketches presented, and the Commission will cooperate with the firm of architects above mentioned, with a view to having plans completed that will be satisfactory to your Committee.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Hon. Fritz G. Lanham,
Member of the Joint Congressional
Committee, United States Capitol,
Washington, D. C.

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman

74-1

COPY

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
Washington

October 8, 1938.

Dear Mr. Lenham:

In view of the death, recently, of Dr. Paul Philippe Cret, the Commission of Fine Arts unanimously recommend that his successors in office, the firm of Emmons, Borgh, Hartmayer and Larson, Architects, be appointed consulting architect for the pending plans to make changes in the United States Senate and House of Representatives chambers. These men were associated with Dr. Cret over a period of many years, and he had entire confidence in their ability to continue the work of the office in the spirit in which he conducted it.

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on October 8, 1938, were pleased to confer with you and other members of the Joint Congressional Committee having the proposed changes at the Capitol in charge. The Commission felt improvements could be made in the sketches presented, and the Commission will cooperate with the firm of architects above mentioned, with a view to having plans completed that will be satisfactory to your Committee.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Hon. Fritz G. Lanham,
Member of the Joint Congressional
Committee, United States Capitol,
Washington, D. C.

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman

October 8, 1945.

Dear Mr. Lynn:

It was a pleasure for the Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on October 6, 1945 to confer with you and members of the Senate and House of Representatives, member of the Joint Congressional Committee for changes in the United States Senate and House of Representatives chambers.

Attached hereto are copies of letters sent to Senator Andrews and to Congressman Lanham, from which you will note that the Commission of Fine Arts unanimously recommend as the consulting architect for this work the successors in offiee to Dr. Cret, namely, the firm of Harbeson, Hough, Livingston and Larson, Architects. As you know, these men were long associated with Dr. Cret, and he had confidence in their ability to continue the work of the office as he would have it done.

When you are ready, the Commission will be glad to confer with you and with the architects and to review preliminary drawings prepared under the direction of Messrs. Harbeson, Hough, Livingston and Larson.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke
Chairman

Hon. David Lynn,
Architect of the Capitol,
Washington, D. C.

Exhibit No.2

October 5, 1948.

Dear Mr. Lyon:

It was a pleasure for the Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on October 5, 1948 to confer with you and members of the Senate and House of Representatives, member of the Joint Congressional Committee for planning in the United States Senate and House of Representatives chambers.

Attached hereto are copies of letters sent to Senator Andrews and to Congressman Lanham, from which you will note that the Commission at this late unanimously recommend as the consulting architect for this work the successors in office to Mr. Cret, namely, the firm of Harbeson, Hough, Livingston and Larson, Architects. As you know, these men were long associated with Mr. Cret, and be had confidence in their ability to continue the work of the office as he would have it done.

When you are ready, the Commission will be glad to confer with you and with the architects and to review preliminary drawings prepared under the direction of Messrs. Harbeson, Hough, Livingston and Larson.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke
Chairman

Hon. David Lynn,
Architect of the Capitol,
Washington, D. C.

Exhibit #3

COPY

United States Senate,

Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds

Washington, D. C., October 16, 1945.

Honorable Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman, Fine Arts Commission,
Interior Department Building,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Clarke:

Thank you for your letter of October 8, recommending the firm of Harbeson, Hough, Livingston & Larson, Architects, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, to serve as consulting architects with reference to the reconstruction and repair of the Senate Chamber.

The members of my committee and I desire to express Deep appreciation and pleasure at having the Commission of Fine Arts meet with us on October 5, and we trust that we may have the pleasure of seeing you all again when the plans and sketches are further developed.

Sincerely yours,

Charles O. Andrews

Exhibit N-3

Exhibit B-3

COPY

United States Senate,

Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds

Washington, D. C., October 16, 1948.

Honorable Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman, Fine Arts Commission,
Interior Department Building,
Washington, D. C.

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The members of my committee and I desire to express deep appreciation and pleasure at having the Commission of Fine Arts meet with us on October 5, and we trust that we may have the pleasure of seeing you all again when the plans and sketches are further developed.

Sincerely yours,

Charles O. Andrews

October 24, 1945.

Dear Mr. Demarary:

At a meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts held on October 5th, the Commission confirmed the action taken on July 1, 1941, with respect to the new location for the McMillan Fountain, namely "a site in the grove south of the Lincoln Memorial Refleeting Pool andapproximately 850 feet west of the District of Columbia World War Memorial."

The Commission visited the proposed site in company with Assistant Superintendent Thompson, National Capital Parks, and selected a spot which requires moving one magnolia. The Commission concurred unanimoulsy in this matter and hope that the fountain may be located there soon.

It would be helpful if the Office of National Capital Parks would prepare a landscape plan for location of the fountain at the site above mentioned.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman

Mr. A. E. Demaray, Acting Director,
National Park Service,
Department of the Interior,
Washington, D. C.

Exhibit O

Exhibit O

Mr. A. B. Demery, Acting Director,
National Park Service,
Department of the Interior,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Demery:

At a meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts held on October 8th, the Commission confirmed the action taken on July 1, 1961, with respect to the new location for the McMillan Fountain, namely "a site in the grove south of the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool approximately 860 feet west of the District of Columbia World War Memorial."

The Commission visited the proposed site in company with Assistant Superintendent Thompson, National Capital Parks, and selected a spot which requires moving one magnolia. The Commission concurred unanimously in this matter and hope that the fountain may be located there soon.

It would be helpful if the Office of National Capital Parks would prepare a landscape plan for location of the fountain at the site above mentioned.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman

October 24, 1962.

WASHINGTON AFTER THE WAR

The central area of the National Capital—view of Washington from Arlington, Plan of 1901

A Display of Plans, Models and Drawings by the National Commission of Fine Arts and the National Capital Park and Planning Commission

IN COOPERATION WITH

The Architect of the Capitol
The Public Buildings Administration, and the
Public Roads Administration, Federal Works Agency
U. S. Engineer Office
The National Park Service, Department of the Interior
The Director of Highways and the Municipal Architect
of the District of Columbia Government
National Capital Housing Authority
Washingtoniana Division of the Public Library
District of Columbia

AT

THE CORCORAN GALLERY OF ART, WASHINGTON, D. C.
September 9 to October 21, 1945, inclusive

Exhibit P

THE PLAN OF WASHINGTON

It was due to the foresight and wisdom of President Washington that Maj. Pierre Charles L'Enfant, a French engineer officer who had served during the American Revolution, was selected to prepare a plan for the new seat of the Federal Government, decided upon by Congress in July 1790. With constant advice and guidance from President Washington and the Secretary of State, Thomas Jefferson, the plan was completed in 1791. The most essential government buildings were soon started, beginning with the White House and the Capitol. In compliance with the act of Congress approved April 24, 1800, the Executive Offices and Archives of the Government were moved to the new Capital; and Congress convened in the completed wing of the Capitol on November 21, 1800.

The City grew generally in accordance with L'Enfant's plan, but with the passage of time, departures therefrom became more and more frequent. While Federal buildings were built as needed, the struggling municipality was unable or unwilling to make suitable municipal improvements and at the outbreak of the Civil War it was still but a very elementary town scattered over a considerable area with great vacant spaces between houses. The inhabitants were dependent upon local springs for their water supply, there was no general system of sewage disposal, but very few streets were lighted with oil lamps; in the broad streets and avenues, generally unpaved and often not graded, cattle and domestic animals wandered at will—hardly what a great capital should be.

The Civil War intensified these shortcomings and the population rose to 100,000. Under the Territorial Government established in 1871 an era of municipal construction and improvement was inaugurated and great progress was made.

Celebration of the Centennial of the establishment of the Federal Government in Washington called Nation-wide attention to it, its problems and its shortcomings. A Senate resolution on March 8, 1901, called for "plans for the development of the entire park system" and a Commission of nationally recognized experts was appointed for this purpose, generally known as the McMillan Commission. The Commission's report and recommendations went beyond the park system, proposing "the treatment of the city as a work of civic art"; but adopted the L'Enfant plan and its extension on a scale more adequate to the greater capital of a greater country in a manner inspired by its spirit. "This action reflected credit not only on the genius of L'Enfant, but also on the Commission itself, which had the wisdom to recognize the supreme merit of the original plan and the good sense—and modesty—to build upon it." Because of the public confidence in the members of the Commission its report became an accepted directive for what has subsequently been done.

In 1910, the Commission of Fine Arts was established with jurisdiction over Federal projects in regard to architecture, sculpture, painting, and landscape architecture—briefly, aesthetics.

Little having been accomplished in acquiring the land for the parks system recommended by the McMillan Commission, a National Capital Park Commission was established for this purpose in 1924. The act was amended in 1926 to make it a Park and Planning Commission with the added duty of preparing a comprehensive, coordinated and consistent plan for the National Capital and its environs, and to make recommendations to the appropriate authorities to carry it out.

The National Capital is now a city of a million inhabitants (Metropolitan Washington over 1,250,000), and the postwar program is still being formulated. This exhibition shows projects that were held in abeyance on account of the War and others that are new and shown here for the first time, looking forward to the Sesquicentennial in 1950 of the Establishment of the Seat of Government in the District of Columbia.

THE CITY OF WASHINGTON AFTER THE WAR

Early Plans

1. Plan of Maj. Pierre Charles L'Enfant for the National Capital, prepared for the site selected by President Washington, is a unique example of a system of radial avenues superimposed upon a rectangular street system. The streets and avenues connecting the principal features were laid out on the ground as the plan progressed in order to insure their conformance with the topography. The original drawing is now in the Library of Congress.

2. Engraving of the L'Enfant plan, made under the direction of Maj. Andrew Ellicott, his successor. There were many changes and omissions in the avenues made during this process.

3. Plan of the McMillan Commission of 1901 for future public building sites and the restoration of L'Enfant's mall. The formal treatment of the mall was extended westward from the Washington Monument to the Potomac River, over a large area of reclaimed land.

4. Bird's-eye view of the 1901 plan. (NOTE.—These two drawings were shown in 1902 in an exhibition of the work of the McMillan Commission held in the amphitheater of this gallery. It was opened by President Theodore Roosevelt.)

5. Plan of extension of Mall axis eastward to the Anacostia, 1939.

6. Regional park plan by the National Capital Park and Planning Commission. By 1898 the city had expanded to the boundaries of the District, and in 1926 studies were made for the park system for the entire metropolitan area.

7. Formal treatment of the Washington Monument Grounds proposed by the McMillan Commission of 1901, abandoned in 1930 after a board of eminent engineers found that, because of subsoil conditions, the excessive cuts and fills called for in the plan might endanger the stability of the shaft.

National Capital Park and Planning Commission

8. Plan of Frederick Law Olmsted, Landscape Architect 1931, for an informal treatment of the Washington Monument Grounds, retaining the existing grades.

9. Study for the revision of Mr. Olmsted's plan meeting changed conditions in the road system, by T. C. Jeffers, Landscape Architect.

10. Plan of completed Mall, 1945. The early start in the execution of this plan in accordance with the design of 1901 is due to direct interest in the project and its active support by President Theodore Roosevelt and the removal of railroad tracks and station by the Pennsylvania Railroad Co.

11. Plan for the completion of West Potomac Park upon the removal of the Navy and Munitions Buildings, temporary structures of World War I.

12. Plan for Northwest Building Area. In less than 40 years a large number of semipublic buildings had been constructed along Constitution Avenue and Seventeenth Street. The Interior Building (1935) and an initial unit of the War Department Building (1939) were the first permanent public buildings to be built here. A feature of the plan is the extension of Rawlins Park, westward to Twenty-third Street.

13. View of Northwest Building Area.

14. Photo of model showing Navy Department group as proposed in 1939.

15. Front elevation of the proposed annex to the Federal Reserve Board building by Paul Cret, Architect.

16. Photograph from the Washington Monument of the Northwest Building Area in 1894, and

17. Same in 1944—50 years later.

18. Plan of Central Federal Area extended eastward to the Anacostia River.

19. Study model of the Central Area made as the plans for various units progressed.

Public Buildings Administration

20. Perspective of the proposed General Accounting Office.

21. Approach plan of same.

22. Perspective of the proposed Administration Building, Bureau of Standards.

23. Key plan of same.

24. Approach plan of same.

25. Perspective of the West Central Heating Plant, in the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway at K Street.

26. George Washington University Hospital, Twenty-third Street at Washington Circle. Faulkner & Kingsbury, Architects, Washington, D. C.

27. Georgetown University Hospital, Georgetown University Grounds. Kaiser, Neal and Read, Architects, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Municipal Architect—Nathan C. Wyeth

28. Perspective of Central Library.

29. Plan of Municipal Center Development.

30. Fort Reno Reservoir Development.

31. Stadium, Coolidge High School.

32. Plan of same.

33. Municipal Center Group—Judiciary Square.

Architect of the Capitol, David Lynn

34. Proposed garage and park developments for U. S. House of Representatives.

U. S. Engineer Office

35. Washington Channel Waterfront Improvement.

National Capital Park and Planning Commission

36. Plan of extension of Constitution and Independence Avenues eastward, 1941, by Jay Downer and Gilmore D. Clarke, Consultants.

37. Plan for the extension of the Mall axis eastward to the Anacostia River between Constitution and Independence Avenues extended, along a widened East Capitol Street, with sites for new public and semipublic buildings, and a large sports center at the end of East Capitol Street.

38. Bird's-eye view of proposed East Capitol Street development, from the Capitol to Lincoln Park.

39. Bird's-eye view of proposed East Capitol Street development from Lincoln Park to the Anacostia River.

40. Perspective of the proposed Army Medical Library on south side of East Capitol Street between Third and Fourth Streets SE. Eggers and Higgins, Architects.

41. Plan for the Sports Center at end of East Capitol Street development. Pond and Sullivan, Consultants.

42. Plan for Recreation System, District of Columbia.

43. Plan of Taft Recreation Center.

44. Plan for Fort Drive—a parkway in evolution.

45. Plan for Fort Drive—a circumferential highway.

National Capital Parks, National Park Service

46. Typical Recreation Area Community Building (Turkey Thicket).

47. Fletcher's Boathouse—C. & O. Canal.

48. Bridge for Washington-Baltimore Parkway.

49. General development plan, Fort Dupont Park.

50. Concert barge at the Watergate.

51. General development for East Potomac Park.

52. Proposed Marina, adjacent to the National Airport.

53. General map of National Capital Parks areas with notations of proposed improvements.

National Capital Housing Authority

54. Objectives.

55. Example of Slum Clearance, low-cost housing.

Public Roads Administration and D. C. Highway Department

56. Proposed grade separation for Klingle Road in Rock Creek Park. Clarke, Rapuano, and Holleran, Consulting Engineers. Bridge No. 1.

57. Same—Bridge No. 3.

58. Proposed South Capitol Street Bridge. Modjeski and Masters, Engineers, and Paul Cret, Consulting Architect.

59. Plan for Fourteenth Street Highway Bridges. Howard, Needles, Tammen, and Bergendoff, Engineers, and Henry R. Shepley, Consulting Architect.

60. Location plan for same.

61. Perspective of Washington terminal for same.

62. Single Scheme Bridge.

63. Proposed K Street Elevated Highway. Harrington and Cortelyou, Engineers, and Louis Justement, Consulting Architect.

64. Proposed Baltimore-Washington Parkway.

65. Plan of George Washington Memorial Parkway.

66. Photos of features of special interest to be preserved.

A. Coat of Arms of George Washington.

B. Regional Park Plan.

C. Upper and Lower Potomac Park Plan.

D. View of Sports Center at end of East Capitol Street.

E. Plan of Upper George Washington Memorial Parkway showing uses.

F. Model of an existing slum dwelling. Washington Housing Association.

G. Model—Holmes Memorial Garden.

H. Model—Completion of War Department Building. Public Buildings Administration.

Washingtoniana Division of the Public Library

Historic Washington. (Material in cases at head of stairway.)

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